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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/064,964

09/04/2002

Henry Thomas Ubik

201-1007 FAM

7009

28549

7590

05/07/2007

ARTZ & ARTZ, P.C.

28333 TELEGRAPH ROAD, SUITE 250

SOUTHFIELD, MI 48034

EXAMINER

LANEAU, RONALD

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3714

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/07/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/064,964

Applicant(s)

UBIK ET AL.

Examiner

Ronald Laneau

Art Unit

3714

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 February 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Response to Amendment

1. The response filed on 02/16/07 has been entered. Claims 1-7 remain pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Song et al (US 2003/0163233 A1) in view of Heinrich et al (US 2002/0044058 A1).

As per claims 1 and 6, Song discloses a method for inventory management of a plurality of transportation vehicles wherein each vehicle has an active RF transmitter in communication with a diagnostic service bus on said vehicle (page 1, [0011] – [0012]), said method comprising the steps of: defining a service area for active transmission between said RF transmitter and a server specific to said service area; communicating data relevant to said transportation vehicle from said transmitter to said server automatically and in real time (see abstract); and determining an inventory of transportation vehicles within said predefined service area. Song does not explicitly disclose an inventory of transportation vehicles within a predefined service area but Heinrich discloses an inventory of vehicle within a predefined service area being close to the RFID transponder to collect data from the vehicle as claimed with the predefined service area being the location of the vehicle (page 1, [0006], pages 1-2, [0015], lines 1-7).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the system of inventory vehicles as taught by Heinrich into the system of Song because it would provide a savings in both time and labor to be able to audit the inventory automatically without the need for physically checking every vehicle.

As per claims 2-4 and 7, the system taught by Song is capable of indicating the step of communicating a time said vehicle entered said predefined service area to said Server; the step of communicating a time said vehicle left said predefined service area to said Server; and both the steps of: communicating a time said vehicle entered said predefined service area to said server; and communicating a time said vehicle left said predefined service area to said Server as claimed (see fig. 6).

As per claim 5, the system of Song would also determine a location of a predetermined number of vehicles having predetermined characteristics, including a destination site; and delivering said predetermined number of vehicles to said destination site due to its tracking system.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed on 02/16/07 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues that Song fails to disclose "defining a service area." In response to Applicant's arguments, Although Song's vehicle is sometimes in motion but there comes a point of time where this vehicle is park and once parked, it becomes easier to define a service area for that particular vehicle. Furthermore, the newly added reference (Heinrich) is used to disclose

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that the concept of defining a service area using an RFID tag is well known in the art. The collection of data disclosed by the Heinrich reference can be used by the Song's system to determine the inventory item of that particular vehicle. Both references deal with collecting data from a vehicle and therefore are in the same field of endeavor. Claims 1-7 are finally rejected.

Conclusion

5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

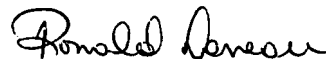
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ronald Laneau whose telephone number is (571) 272-6784. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 - 3:00.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pezzuto can be reached on (571) 272-6996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Ronald Laneau
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3714

5/1/07

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